

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 OIC-02 SP-02 PM-05
NSCE-00 INR-10 ACDA-12 VO-05 CA-01 SY-05 USSS-00
CPR-01 PA-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
FBIE-00 /083 W

-----059225 261636Z /64

O 261543Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8042

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2773

FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNGA
SUBJECT: UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT; ATTENDANCE OF
FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE AYALA LASSO

REF: STATE 09#/6 #
#/6

1. FON OFF HAS CONFIRMED THAT FONMIN JOSE AYALA LASSO WILL
ATTEND SSOD. ALTHOUGH PLANS ARE STILL NOT CERTAIN, HE IS
TENTATIVELY PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK ON MAY 16 AND
STAY SIX DAYS.

2. AYALA ASSUMED OFFICE ON THE EVE OF THE LAST OASGA BUT
DID NOT ATTEND THAT MEETING AND THEREFORE DID NOT HAVE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR A BILATERAL IN GRENADA OR SUBSEQUENTLY.
ECUADOR MUST BE ONE OF THE FEW, IF NOT THE ONLY, COUNTRY IN
THE HEMISPHERE WHOSE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS NOT MET WITH
THE SECRETARY. INDEED, AN ECUADOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAS
NOT MET WITH AN AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE SINCE 1975.
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IN THE PAST YEAR ECUADOR'S FOREIGN AND INTERNAL POLITICS
HAVE EVOLVED GREATLY TOWARD GOALS WHICH FAVOR OUR
ATTITUDES AND OBJECTIVES. DOMESTICALLY, ECUADOR IS
ADVANCING RAPIDLY TOWARD THE RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL
GOVERNMENT, A PROCESS WITH WHICH THE US HAS BECOME
STRONGLY IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE VISIT OF MRS. CARTER
HERE LAST YEAR AND THROUGH THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC STATE-

MENTS OF HIGH USG OFFICIALS. EXTERNALLY, ECUADOR HAS
MOVED FROM A SKEPTICAL TO AN APPROVED ATTITUDE ON HUMAN
RIGHTS. THERE IS A GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT THE SUCCESSOR

CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT MAY CHOOSE TO ADOPT AN ENTHUSIASTICALLY
AGGRESSIVE POLICY, A DECISION WHICH THE CAREER DIPLOMATIC
ESTABLISHMENT OF WHICH AYALA IS A PART WILL SHARE IN. IT
HAS ALSO COME TO IDENTIFY MUCH CLOSER WITH THE US ON
EAST-WEST ISSUES. THE SECRETARY COULD USEFULLY DISCUSS
WITY AYALA ANDEAN TENSIONS, RELATIONS WITH CUBA, NORTH-
SOUTH ISSUES, AND PETROLEUM POLICY AS WELL AS DISARMAMENT.
CORR

NOTE BY OC/T: # REFERENCE AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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